



# A COMPARATIVE STUDY ON ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF RURAL AND URBAN SECONDARY STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO LAKHIMPUR DISTRICT OF ASSAM

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## ABSTRACT

The study aimed to compare the academic performance of rural and urban secondary school students. The sample of the study consisted of 200 students ( 100 rural and 100 urban) of class- X of Lakhimpur District of Assam. Survey method is used for collection of data. The study reveals that highest numbers of rural and urban students have the low level of academic performance. There is no significant difference on academic achievement of rural and urban secondary school students

**KEY WORDS:** Academic achievement.

## INTRODUCTION:

Education is an important ingredient of human development. Education gives an individual the capacity to adapt to change. Education can mitigate disparities in society among people. It is education that lifts a nation to the heights of progress and greatness. It is said that a child is the future of a nation, so it is very important to guide him in the right way which is provided by education. So, without education a country cannot be developed. It increases the sphere of knowledge and gives direction to the development of an individual's personality. Education enables individual to understand the real life situation and to develop an opportunity for creating confidence in the minds and provide a strong base for rational and value- oriented and nation- building progress.

Academic performance occupied an important place in education. It is the level of performance in school subjects as exhibited by an individual.

## LITERATURE REVIEW:

Yadav, G.L and Yadav, P.L. (2006) conducted a study on parent child relationship and academic achievement of the students of D.Ed. class of Education Colleges in Rawari District. Parents child relationship scale (PCRS) by Dr. Nalini Rao Ex. Asstt. Professor, Deptt. of Education, Bangalore University, Bangalore was used as a tool to measure 10 dimensions of parent child relationship. For analysis the data mean, standard deviation and t-test were used. The study reported that there is significant difference between parent child relation with boys and girls. When academic achievement of boys and girls was matched with the parent child relationship it was found that boys were statistically different from those of the girls whereas academic achievement of boys and girls depend upon the parent child relationship.

Sunitha, N.H. and Khadi, P.B. (2007) conducted a study on the academic learning environment of students from English and Kannada medium high schools. The main purpose of the study were to investigate the academic learning environment at home and school of co educational high school students from aided and unaided schools and to study the influence of academic learning environment on academic achievement and to study the influence of socio-economic factors on academic learning environment at home and school. The results showed that, higher proportion of unaided school students have high level of school learning environment than aided school students. Students of unaided schools have significantly better facilities in schools and have better method of teaching than students from aided schools. The study also revealed that there is a positive non- significant relationship between home learning environment and school learning environment and academic achievement among high school students.

## OBJECTIVE:

The main objective of the study is to compare the academic performance of rural and urban secondary school students.

## HYPOTHESIS:

The hypothesis of the study is that there is no significant difference on academic achievement of rural and urban secondary school students.

## METHOD AND SAMPLE DESIGN:

The study was conducted under the descriptive survey method. The population of the study is all the Class-X students studying in secondary schools of Lakhimpur district of Assam. 200 students ( 100 rural and 100 urban students) were selected as the sample of the study with the help of stratified random sampling method.

## PROCEDURE FOR DATA COLLECTION:

To study the academic performance of rural and urban students the investigator collected the marks scored by the students at Assam High School Leaving Certificate Examination conducted by Board of Secondary Education, Assam from the respective schools. The collected data were classified into three categories as low, average and high. The range of marks 30-44 is considered as low level of academic achievement, the marks 45-59 is considered as average level and the range of marks 60 and above is considered as high level of academic achievement.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

Collected data were analyzed in terms of mean, standard deviation and t-test.

**Table - 1**  
**Levels of Academic Performance of Rural and Urban Students.**

Levels of Academic Achievement	Rural Students	Percentage	Urban Students	Percentage
Low	49	49	64	64
Average	37	37	25	25
High	14	14	11	11
Total	100	100	100	100

It is observed that 49 percent of the rural and 64 percent of the urban students have the low level of academic performance. 37 percent of the rural and 25 percent of the urban students have the average level and 14 percent of the rural and 11 percent of the urban students have the high level of academic performance. It is found that the highest numbers of rural and urban students have the low level of academic performance i.e. 49 and 64 percent respectively.

For studying significance of mean difference of the academic performance of the rural and urban students "t" test is used. Results of "t" test is shown in the table 2.

**Table - 2**  
**Mean, Standard Deviation and t-test of the Rural and Urban Students.**

Locality	N	Mean	Mean Difference	Standard Deviation	t-value	Sig.
Rural	100	44.83	0.31	11.48	-.303	Not Significant
Urban	100	45.14		11.52		

The mean (or average) mark of the rural students is 44.83 and standard deviation of marks is 11.48. The mean (or average) mark of the urban students is 45.14 and standard deviation of marks is 11.52. The mean difference of the rural and urban students is 0.31 .

It is observed that the calculated "t" value ( t= -.303) is smaller than the tabulated value ( t= 1.96) at 0.05 level of significance. Hence the null hypothesis that there is no significant difference on academic performance of rural and urban secondary school students is accepted.

## MAJOR FINDINGS:

1. It is found that the highest numbers of rural and urban students have the low level of academic performance.

2. The null hypothesis that there is no significant difference on academic performance of rural and urban secondary school students is accepted.

**CONCLUSION:**

Academic performance is generally regarded as the display of knowledge attained or skills developed in the school subject. It is the level of performance in school subjects as exhibited by an individual. Test scores or marks assigned by teachers are indicators of this performance.

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